



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 1, 2003

### **S. 434**

### **Idaho Panhandle National Forest Improvement Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on July 23, 2003*

CBO estimates that enacting S. 434 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill would increase both offsetting receipts and the spending of such receipts, but we estimate that the net impact on direct spending would not exceed \$500,000. S. 434 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 434 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain federal lands in Idaho. The bill would authorize the Secretary to spend, without further appropriation, any proceeds from land sales to acquire, construct, or rehabilitate administrative facilities within the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

According to the Forest Service, the federal lands to be sold or exchanged currently do not generate significant receipts and are not expected to do so over the next 10 years. By providing authority for the Secretary to sell those lands, CBO expects that enacting S. 434 would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) from land sales. Based on information from the Forest Service regarding the value of the affected lands, CBO estimates that the proceeds from such sales would total between \$500,000 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2004. We also estimate that those proceeds would largely be spent in the same year they are received; hence, we estimate that the net change in direct spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.